



1 2 P A R T M A X I S E R I E S

FROM ANTHRO TO THE LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES--
AND **BEYOND!**

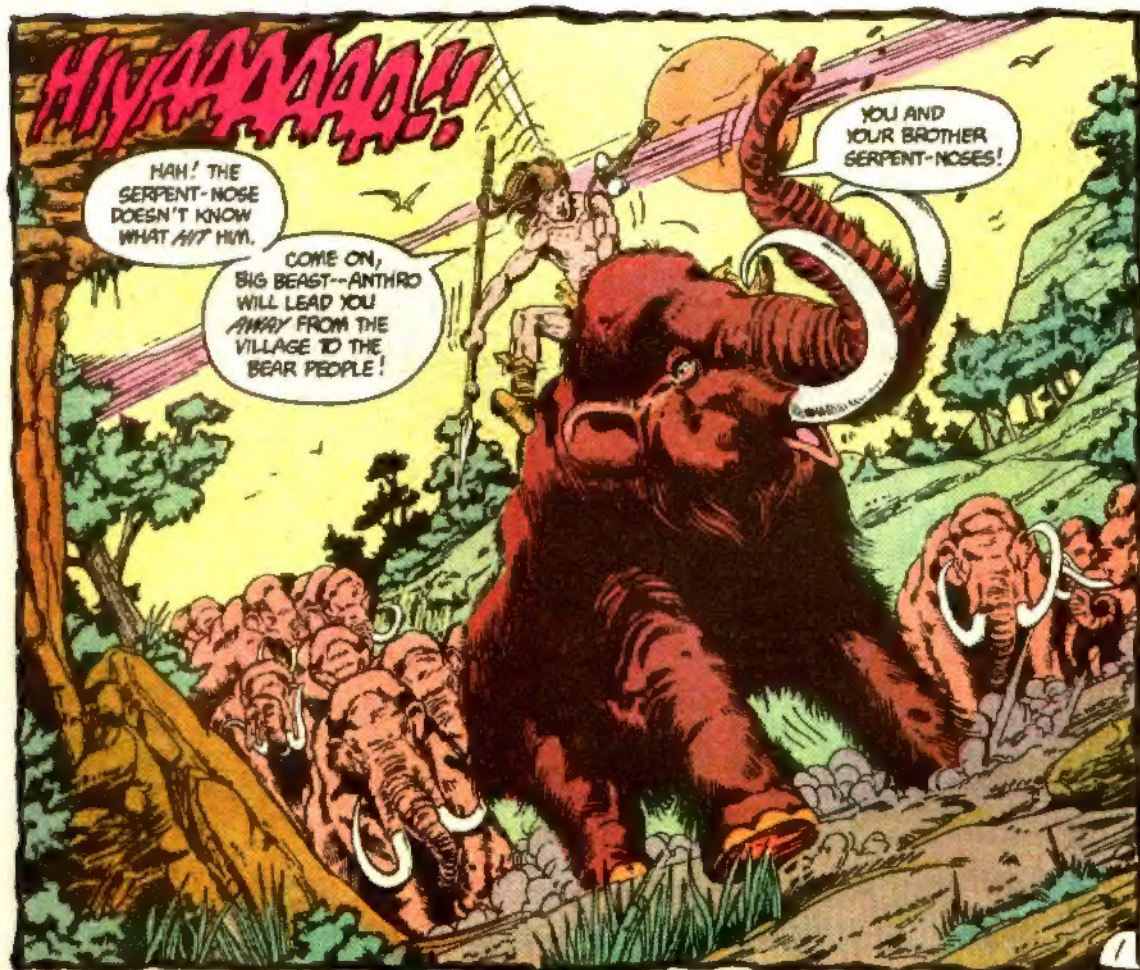
CRISIS

ON INFINITE EARTHS

BY MARV WOLFMAN, GEORGE PEREZ & DICK GIORDANO

75¢
2
MAY 85





OH, NO... THIS STUPID
THING WON'T TURN.

CALVIN, RUN,
EVERYONE--
RUN TO
SAFETY.

THEY DON'T ASK ME
OVER THE ADAR OF
THE SERPENT-
NOSES!

ABEEE! EMBRA,
YOUR HUSBAND
FALLS! WE'LL
ALL DIE!

HE'S YOUR SON,
TOO, NE-AHN,
AND THE FATHER
OF YOUR GRAND
CHILD-TO-BE.

AND ANTHRO HASN'T
FAILED, YET.

I
HOPE.

COME ON, SERPENT-
NOSE... DO I HAVE
TO STICK MY
SPEAR DOWN
TO YOUR TEES
BEFORE YOU
TURN?

LOOK! I TOLD YOU, NE-AHN!
MY HUSBAND SUCCEEDS!

YOUR HUSBAND?
REMEMBER,
HE'S MY
SON, TOO!

I DID IT!
I SAVED
MY VILLAGE!

THEY'LL
PROBABLY
HOLD A
CELEBRATION
IN MY
HONOR!

THEY'LL
SERVE ALL
MY FAVORITE
FOODS!

WHAT
STORIES
I'LL TELL
MY SON-
TO-BE!

AND IT WILL BE A SON!
EMBRA WOULD NEVER HAVE
A SHUDDER! DAUGHTER...

...WOULD
SHE?

ANTHRO, I
KNEW YOU WOULD
SAVE US.

YOU'RE
A HERO!

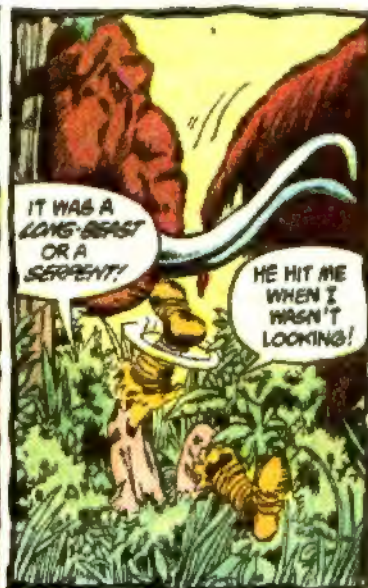
A HERO? I AM,
AREN'T I?

MAYBE THE
BEST
HERO THE
BEAR TRIBE
EVER--



KLINK!

YIINKES!



IT WAS A
LONG-BEAST
OR A
SERPENT!

HE HIT ME
WHEN I
WASN'T
LOOKING!



FACE ME NOW, ANIMAL!
ANTHRO IS A HERO!

I'LL FIGHT
ANY CREATURE
I CAN...



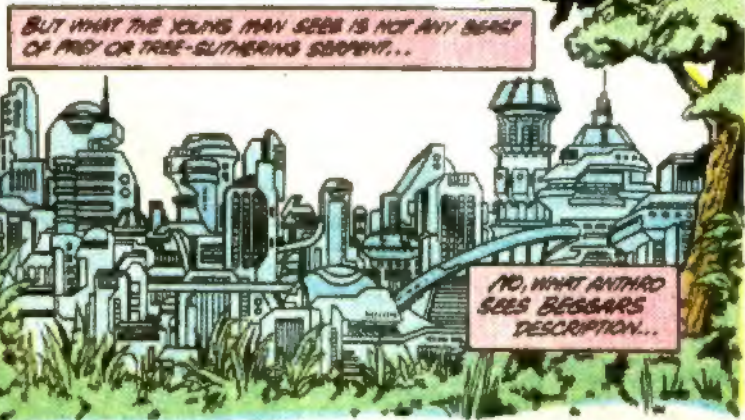
...SEE?

EMBRA! FATHER! LART!
ALL OF YOU, LOOK!

PLEASE,
HURRY!

YOU DID
IT, BROTHER.
I KNEW
YOU WOULD.

WHAT IS IT,
ANTHRO?



BUT WHAT THE YOUNG MAN SEES IS NOT ANY BEAST
OF FRY OR TREE-SLITHERING SERPENT...

NO, WHAT ANTHRO
SEES BEGGARS
DESCRIPTION...



IT'S A VILLAGE,
BUT BIGGER THAN...

WHAT HAPPENED
TO THE VILLAGE?
WHO MOVED IT?

AND WHERE
ARE THE
SERPENT
NOSES?



THERE WAS THIS
SHINY VILLAGE,
AND...

YOU
HEART YOUR HEAD
ON THAT BRANCH.
LET ME MAKE IT
BETTER.



BUT I SAW THIS
BIG VILLAGE, AND...
OH, NEVER MIND!

I STILL SAVED
OUR PEOPLE,
DIDN'T I?
LET'S CELE-
BRATE!

BUT
WHAT DID
HAPPEN
TO THE
SERPENT-
NOSES?

THE DISTANT PAST LEADS TO THE THIRTIETH CENTURY...

...AS BONE-WEARY MEMBERS OF THE LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES CONTINUE THEIR VIGILANT SEARCH...

STILL NO SIGN OF DAWNSTAR. WHAT HAPPENED TO HER?

YOU KNOW SHE ~~WAS~~ **WAS** HERE?

BUT TO WHERE, WILDFIRE?

I DON'T "KNOW", BUT WE'LL FIND HER! WE'VE GOT TO!

COLOSSAL BOY, WHY DIDN'T SHE SIGNAL US?

I DON'T KNOW. IT ISN'T AT ALL LIKE HER.

HOLD ON, DO YOU HEAR IT, REEP?

CERTAINLY DO, LIGHTNING LASS. LOUD AND CLEAR.

BRAINIAC 5! AND THERE'S TROUBLE!

CHAMELEON BOY, PHANTOM GIRL, WILDFIRE, LIGHTNING LASS, AND COLOSSAL BOY--

HOLEEEE CHRISTMAS! WHAT IN BLAZES ARE THOSE THINGS?

C'MON, SID--YOU'VE NEVER SEEN THEIR BONES IN THE MUSEUM?

THEY'RE ~~ANIMATED~~ **ANIMATED**! BIG SUCKERS, TOO!

JUST ONE QUESTION...

YEAH, FREDDY?

--YOU'RE ALL NEEDED IMMEDIATELY!

PLAZA SQUARE--AND LET'S PRAY THIS IS JUST A GAS!

THEY DIED A ZILLION YEARS AGO! HOW'D THEY GET HERE???

"STAND TALL, MEN!"

"SET YOUR WEAPON TO KILL!"

"ON MY ORDER..."

READY... AIM... AND FI--

CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING



NO! DON'T!
WE'LL HANDLE
THIS!

HOLD YOUR
FIRE! IT'S THE
LEGION!

THIS IS MORE
UP THEIR
ALLEY, ANYWAY!



FIRST, YOU
GET THEIR
ATTENTION!



THEY'RE PANICKING! THEY NEED
A LEADER!

HURRY, REEP.
IT'S UP TO YOU!

WE'LL LOSE DAWNSTAR'S
ZONE IF WE TAKE TOO
LONG.



DON'T WORRY YOUR
PRETTY MASK, WILDFIRE.

I'VE GOT THIS
WELL IN HAND.
OR HOOF!

FOLLOW
THE LEADER!
GIM, YOU
READY?



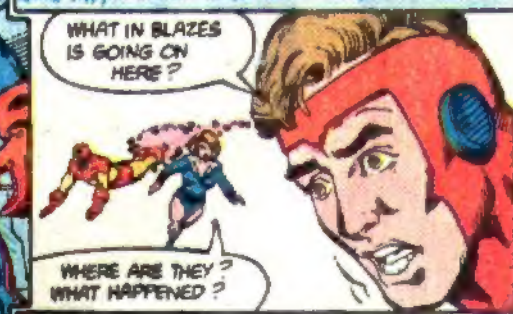
AS READY AS I CAN BE,
CHAMELEON BOY!

I HAVEN'T
STOPPED TOO MANY
MAMMOTHES IN
MY CAREER!

BUT I THINK
I'M ~~JUST~~ ENOUGH
FOR THE JOB!



WOULDN'T
YOU AGA-- TH-THEY'RE
DISAPPEARING?



WHAT IN BLAZES
IS GOING ON
HERE?

WHERE ARE THEY?
WHAT HAPPENED?



FIRST DAWNSTAR VANISHES,
THEN MAMMOTHES APPEAR
AND THEN VANISH, TOO.

I--DON'T
UNDER-
STAND!

CALL
BRAINIAC
5--MAYBE
HE PICKED UP
SOMETHING!

FORGET THE MAMMOTHS, AND DYNAMITE, AT LEAST FOR NOW.

WE'VE GOT SERIOUS PROBLEMS!

MY COMPUTERS DETECT HIGH-INTENSITY FREQUENCY WAVES ... ON THE ALPHA/OMEGA SCALE!

THERE'S ANTI-MATTER ENERGY MOVING TOWARD THE EARTH FROM SOMEWHERE I STILL CANNOT DETERMINE!

ENOUGH ENERGY TO DESTROY NOT ONLY US--

--BUT THE UNIVERSE!



THE FUTURE

FARE'S NOW TO THE PRESENT LATE JULY 1985



EARTH ONE, AND THE STATED MANSION OF MILLIONAIRE HAROLD J. STANDISH THE THIRD!

ACTUALLY, THE MANSION WHICH NOW BELONGS TO MR. STANDISH'S NEARS!

AH, 'T WAS A SHAME, HAROLD; OLD BEAN-- YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO DIE. OH, I APPRECIATE IT THAT YOU DID...

...BUT IT WASN'T NECESSARY!! ALL I WANTED WAS THE OWNERSHIP TO ALL YOUR COMMENTS!

PIDDLING MATTER. YOU OWNED THE ~~BS~~ © TO ALL THOSE SILENT COMEDY FILMS...

WORTH, OH, ROUGHLY, TWENTY-SIX MILLION ONCE THEY UNDERWENT THE NEW COMPUTER COLORATION PROCESS! I ALWAYS SAW MYSELF A MOVIE MOSCOW...

LOUIS B. MEYER, CECIL B. DE MILLE, BOTH THE WARNER BROTHERS, AND, OF COURSE-- ME!

ONLY MOVIE YOU'LL EVER MAKE, JOKER-- IS THE SEQUEL TO "THE PRISONER!"

AND I DON'T MEAN THE ONE IN THAT VILLAGE!

THE BATMAN? YOU ACTUALLY RECOVERED MY CLUE? AMAZING!

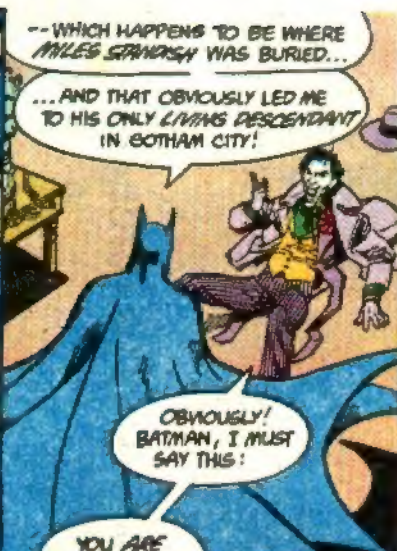
EVEN I WAS STUMPED... AND I WROTE IT!



IT WASN'T DIFFICULT, JOKER.

YOUR LAST VICTIM'S APPOINTMENT BOOK MENTIONED A "MR. JOHN ALDEN OF PLYMOUTH FILMS..."

...AND A 25-MILLION-DOLLAR MOVIE TO BE CALLED "CAPTAIN'S HILL" --

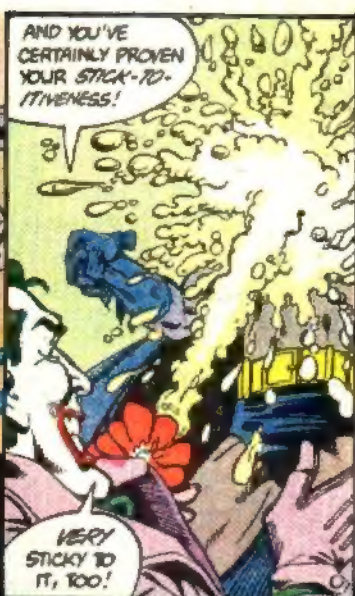


--WHICH HAPPENS TO BE WHERE MILES SPANDY WAS BURIED...

...AND THAT OBVIOUSLY LED ME TO HIS ONLY LIVING DESCENDANT IN GOTHAM CITY!

OBVIOUSLY! BATMAN, I MUST SAY THIS:

YOU ARE A PERSISTENT DEVIL...



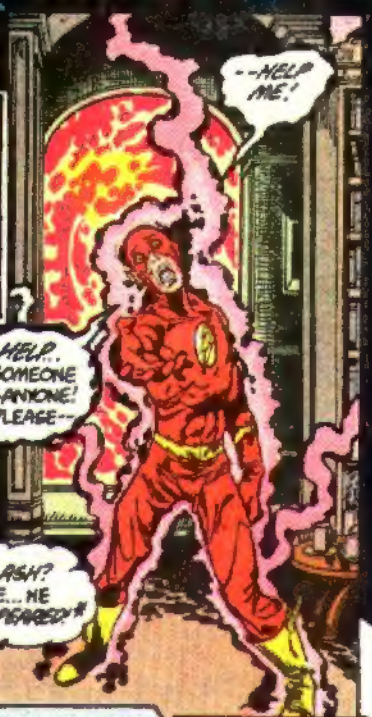
AND YOU'VE CERTAINLY PROVEN YOUR STICK-TO-ITIVENESS!

VERY STICKY TO IT, TOO!



GUMMED UP YOUR WORKS, BATMAN? GETTING OLD, STIFF JOINTS? DON'T FRET, FRIEND!

I HAVE A .45 CALIBER REMEDY MY MAM SOLD TO ME ON HER DEATHBED!



--HELP ME!

HELP... SOMEONE --ANYONE! PLEASE--

THE FLASH? BUT HE... HE DISAPPEARED!

* SEE THE FLASH #350 FOR DETAILS!



ANOTHER SECOND AND I'LL REACH THE SOLVENT IN MY UTILITY BELT!

THEN I'LL FIGURE OUT WHAT NEW GAME THAT CAPRICIOUS CLOWN IS PLAYING!

FLASH!?!



N-NO FAIR, SPEEDSTER. YOUR TOWN'S CENTRAL CITY! TELL HIM, BATMAN! HE HAS NO JURISDICTION HERE!



NO, I DON'T SUPPOSE YOU
WILL TELL HIM, WILL YOU?

YOU CAPED AND
COWLED CORPSES TO-
COME HAVE SOME SORT
OF SECRET RECIPROCAL
DEAL, DON'T YOU?

WELL, I'LL
TELL HIM *MY*
WAY!



EAT *FAST*,
FAST-BOY!

THAT'S
ENOUGH,
JOKER!



YOU'RE GOING BACK
TO ARKHAM, WHERE
YOU BELONGS!

I STILL
HAVE AN ACE
UP MY SLEEVE.

TRY ANYTHING
AND YOU WON'T
HAVE AN ARM
THERE TO KEEP
IT COMPANY!



PLEASE...
CAN'T YOU
SEE THE
WORLD?

I-IT'S *DYING*
ALL
AROUND
ME!

IRIS--
IRIS??

THAT IMAGE *ISN'T* THE JOKER'S
DOING... HE WOULDN'T KNOW ABOUT
BARRY'S LATE WIFE, IRIS.



TOODLES, BATS-- THE
BETTER PART OF VALOR
IS TO *RUN* WHEN
YOU'VE GOT THE
CHANCE.

'TIL NEXT TIME.

HE ACTUALLY
GOT THE "*PELMOUTH*"
CLUE? AMAZING!



WHERE ARE
YOU, FLASH?



I CAN HELP
RESOLVE YOU.

DYING...
THE WORLD
IS DYING...



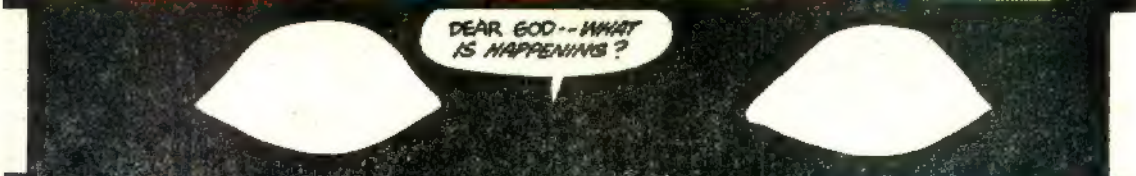
...IRIS... DYING... MAY
ALREADY BE DEAD...

SAVE US...
SAVE US...
SAVE US...

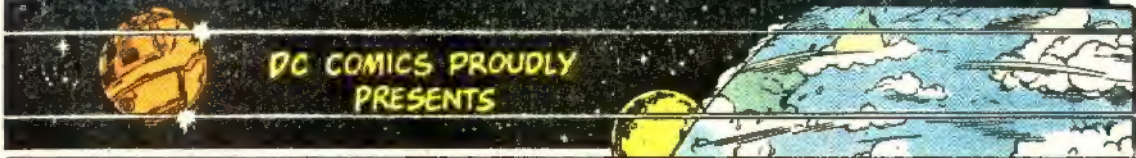
THE
FLASH...



...DISINTEGRAT-
ING BEFORE MY
EYES!



DEAR GOD--WHAT
IS HAPPENING?



DC COMICS PROUDLY
PRESENTS

CRISIS ON

INFINITE EARTHS

THEY ARE FIFTEEN
BOSSSES WITH EXTRA-
ORDINARY ABILITIES,
AND THEY HAVE BEEN
BROUGHT ABOARD
THIS SPACE-AND-TIME
SPAWNING SATELLITE
FOR REASONS THEY
HAVE YET TO LEARN.

ESONO PRITE

FIREBRAND

PSYMON

BLUE BEETLE

GEO-FORCE

FIRESTORM

SOLAR

NOW
OUT
THAT
OUT!

KILLER FROST

I AM--THE MONITOR
... AND I HAVE
SUMMONED YOU
HERE BECAUSE
YOUR UNIVERSES
ARE ABOUT TO
DIE!

ALREADY
MORE THAN
ONE THOUSAND
UNIVERSES
HAVE PERISHED.

THE LAST CONTAINED THE WORLD
YOU KNOW AS EARTH THREE!

NOW, THE ANTI-MATTER FORCE ONCE MORE
SHATTERS THE DIMENSIONAL BARRIERS...

TIME AND

INFINITE EARTHS

SUPERMAN

ARION

DR. POLARIS

OBSIDIAN

CYBORG

STARSTAR

GREEN LANTERN

YOU'VE
SUPPLIED
WEAPONS TO
OTHER SUPER-
VILLAINS!

... EXPANDING OUTWARD, ENSULFING ONE
UNIVERSE AND THEN ANOTHER, DESTROYING
ALL LIFE... AND HOPE.

FIRST YOUR WORLDS WILL FEEL ANTI-MATTER'S
WRATH AS YOUR PLANETS CRY OUT IN AGONY...

TIME AGAIN!

WORLDS IN UPHEAVAL:
EARTHQUAKES, VOLCANIC
DISTURBANCES, FLOODS
WHICH WILL CRUSH YOUR
COAST-LINE CITIES LIKE
SO MANY THINGS BENEATH
YOUR FEET.

HOLD IT, PAL. LIKE
ANTLER-HEAD SAID--
I'VE HEARD OF
YOU, TOO.
YOU'VE BEEN SELLING
THE BAD GUYS WEAPONS
AND STUFF FOR THE
PAST YEAR OR SO.
WHAT GIVES?

I HAVE COME HERE
TO HELP SAVE YOUR
WORLDS, NOT TO
FIGHT YOU. PLEASE,
I AM... Tired.
BUT I WILL TRY
TO EXPLAIN ALL.

YOU'LL EXPLAIN
NOTHING, MONITOR.
YOU TURNED DOWN
MY REQUEST FOR
WEAPONS. YOU LISTENED AND
REFUSED MY NEEDS.
I SWORE THEN
I WOULD DESTROY
YOU.

WILL DO NOTHING. I
TURNED YOU DOWN
BECAUSE YOUR
SCHEME WOULD
HAVE DESTROYED
THE VERY ONES I
NEED.

ARE YOU MAD,
MAN? THINK--
WHAT IF HE'S
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MY Foe'S
STRENGTH
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BECOME
WEAKER. BUT
I WILL LIVE,
LYLA...

I WILL
STAND AT
YOUR SIDE...
YET WHY DO
I FEEL AS
IF I DO? A
FORCE, AN
ENERGY--
BURNING
INSIDE
ME...

I'VE HEARD OF THIS
MONITOR, TOO, THOUGH
EVEN MY TELESCOPIC
VISION NEVER
DETECTED HIS
SATELLITE.
I SUGGEST, HOWEVER,
WE HEAR HIM OUT.

IF HE'S TELLING
THE TRUTH,
WE'LL SAVE
OUR WORLDS.

THEN SHALL COME
THE ANTI-MATTER... SILENT,
INVISIBLE... SWEEPING
ACROSS YOUR WORLDS,
TAKING WITH IT...
EVERYTHING.

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CRISIS ON

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AND THEY HAVE BEEN
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PSIONIC FORCE

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HOLD IT, PAL LIKE
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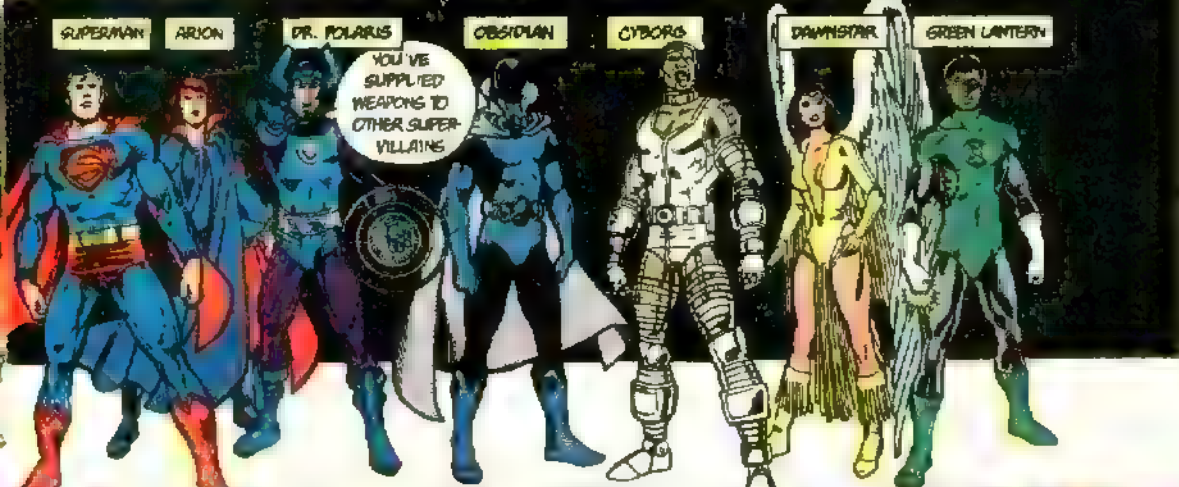
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INFINITE EARTH



... EXPANDING OUTWARD, ENGLUFING ONE UNIVERSE AND THEN ANOTHER. DESTROYING ALL LIFE... AND HOPE

FIRST YOUR WORLDS WILL FEEL *ANTARES'S* WRATH AS YOUR PLANETS CRY OUT IN AGONY...



TIME AGAIN!

<p>ARE YOU MAD, MAN? THINK-- WHAT IF HE'S TELLING THE TRUTH?</p> <p>UNHAND ME, YOU STUPID POLTROON!</p>	<p>MONITOR, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT? I'VE NEVER SEEN YOU SO <i>WRECKED</i> BEFORE.</p> <p>MY ROE'S STRENGTH GROWS AND I BECOME WEAKER. BUT I WILL LIVE, LYLA...</p> <p>STILL, I NEED THE POWERS OF <i>PARASINGER</i> BESIDE ME...</p> <p>... I FEAR THESE EARTHLINGS MAY BE TOO DIFFICULT TO CONTROL.</p>	<p>I WILL STAND AT YOUR SIDE...</p> <p>YET WHY DO I FEEL AS I DO? A FORCE, AN ENERGY-- BURNING <i>INSIDE</i> ME...</p> <p>AND WHY DO I FEEL <i>HAZE</i> TOWARD THE ONE WHO <i>SAVED</i> MY LIFE? <i>WHY???</i></p>	<p>I'VE HEARD OF THIS MONITOR, TOO, THOUGH EVEN MY <i>TELESCOPIC VISION</i> NEVER DETECTED HIS SATELLITE.</p> <p>I SUGGEST, HOWEVER, WE HEAR HIM OUT.</p>	<p>IF HE'S TELLING THE <i>TRUTH</i>, WE'LL SAVE OUR WORLDS.</p> <p>IF HE'S <i>LIES</i>, NO POWER EXISTS THAT CAN DEFEAT US ALL.</p>
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UNDERSTAND, I AM LINKED WITH ALL POSITIVE MATTER. IT FLOWS THROUGH ME, GIVES ME MY POWER.

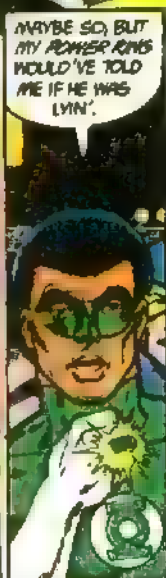
BUT AS THE ANTI-MATTER DESTROYS MORE AND MORE, I WEAKEN...

SOON, IF YOU FAIL, I WILL BE HELPLESS TO PREVENT MY FOE FROM DESTROYING ALL THAT EXISTS.



MONITOR, WHY US? SURELY THERE ARE OTHERS WITH GREATER POWERS?

YOUR STORY RINGS FALSE



MAYBE SO, BUT MY POWER RINGS WOULD'VE TOLD ME IF HE WAS LYIN'.



I-I'M STILL CONFUSED. WHO ARE ALL THESE PEOPLE? I KNOW ONLY A VERY FEW.



WE'RE FROM DIFFERENT TIMES, FIREBRAND... SOMETIMES EVEN DIFFERENT EARTHES.

YOU KNOW ME AND SUPERMAN, AND I ONLY A FEW OTHERS.



I AM NOT CONVINCED. I SAY WE LEAVE THIS INSTANT.

TAKE IT EASY, GEO-FORCE. WE GOTTA HEAR THIS THROUGH.



I DON'T LIKE ANY OF THIS.

NONE OF US DOES, PSYMON. BUT WE'LL LISTEN.



I HAVE TESTED ALL OF YOU AND MORE... PITTED YOU ONE AGAINST THE OTHER TO FULLY CATALOG YOUR ABILITIES.

YOU ARE MY INITIAL FORCE... OTHERS WILL BE SUMMONED AS THEIR ABILITIES ARE REQUIRED.

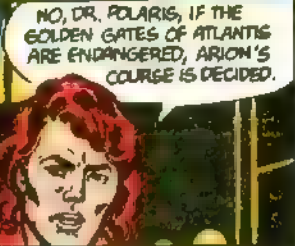


WHAT IS AT STAKE NOW IS GREATER THAN ANY MORALITY OF GOOD AND EVIL. THE FINAL FATE OF ALL LIFE RESTS IN YOUR HANDS.

PLEASE... YOU MUST... MUST...



HE'S LOANS IT. HE CAN RESH HIM.



NO, DR. POLARIS, IF THE GOLDEN GATES OF ATLANTIS ARE ENDANGERED, ARION'S COURSE IS DECIDED.



OH, I--I BELIEVE HIM, TOO. THE PSYCHO PIRATE KNOWS TRUE MADNESS WHEN HE HEARS IT.



THEN WHY DO YOU ARGUE? PLEDGE TO AID THE MONITOR.



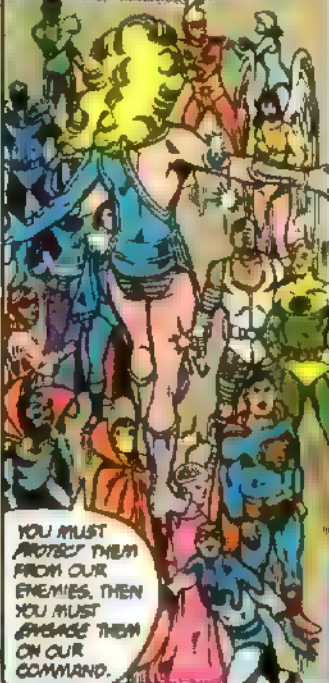
SO THERE YOU ARE, HARBINGER.

I WAS WONDERING WHEN YOU'D SHOW!

IN FIVE CRUCIAL ERAS
THROUGHOUT TIME THE
MONITOR HAS PLANTED
CERTAIN DEVICES
POWERFUL ENOUGH TO
HALE THE ANTI-MATTER
TIDE...

FIVE ERAS WHICH COINCIDE WITH
THE EXISTENCE OF HEROES SUCH
AS YOU.

FOR THE PRESENCE OF
SUCH HEROIC IDEALS CREATES
ITS OWN ROGUE POINT!



YOU MUST
PROTECT THEM
FROM OUR
ENEMIES. THEN
YOU MUST
ENFORCE THEM
ON OUR
COMMAND.

SHE'S DIFFERENT.
I SENSE DARK-
NESS WITHIN HER.

I TRUST THE
MONITOR, YET
THE ONE WHO
SERVES HIM...

...FRIGHTENS
ME DEEPLY.



WE'LL HELP. AND WE'LL KNOW SOON
ENOUGH IF IT'S ALL TRUE.

WHERE ARE
THESE
PLACES
YOU'RE
SENDING
US?



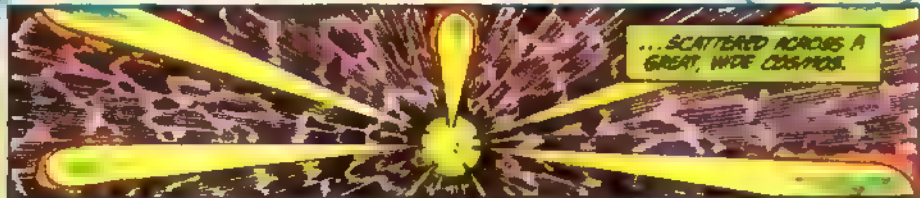
THE MONITOR IS MERRY... WHAT
IS YOUR ANSWER? SPEAK!



BLUE
BEEBLE,
SEE FOR
YOUR-
SELF!

ONE MOMENT
THEY ARE
THERE...

... WITHIN THE COM-
MITTES OF A SATELLITE
THAT SEEMINGLY
EXISTS IN ALL TIMES,
PLACES, AND DIMEN-
SIONS...



... SCATTERED ACROSS A
GREAT, WIDE COSMOS.

REST NOW, MONITOR-- CONSERVE
YOUR STRENGTH...

... WHILE I
MUST ALERT
THE
OTHER.



I... I AM UNABLE
TO RESIST HIM. AND
I AM FORCED TO
OBEY HIS COMMANDS.

FORGIVE
ME.. THOUGH
YOU HAVE BEEN
MY FATHER AND
MORE--



--I NOW
BETRAY
YOU.



THEN THEY ARE
GONE...



THIS IS A WORLD
SURROUNDED IN
MYSTERY, A WORLD
VERY FEW KNOW
EVEN EXISTS YET
THIS TINY GLOBE
IN THE VERY CENTER
OF THE KNOWN
UNIVERSE...

...CONTROLS
THE POWER
ANSWER!



IT SEEMS TO BE,
BUT HOW COULD IT
ESCAPE OUR
DETECTION BEFORE
NOW?

WE MONITOR ALL
THE GALAXIES. OUR
INSTRUMENTS TRACK
ALL UNUSUAL
ANOMALIES.

WE SHOULD HAVE
BEEN CERTAIN
BEFORE NOW



WE DISCOVERED ITS PRESENCE TWELVE
CYCLES AGO. POWER INGUINATING OUR
UNIVERSE...

...A POWER WHICH HAS
ALREADY SWEEP THROUGH
MOST OF THE OTHER
DIMENSIONAL PLANES



IF WE CANNOT
STOP ITS MOVE-
MENTS, OUR
UNIVERSE WILL
FALL.



WE NEED THE
COMPLETE
GREAT LANTERN
CODES

AND EVEN THEN
I FEAR FOR OUR
SUCCESS.

NO,
GUARDIAN--
IT IS TOO
LATE.

YOU SHALL NO
MORE SUMMON
YOUR SOLDIERS
THAN PROVE A
THREAT TO
MY PLANS.

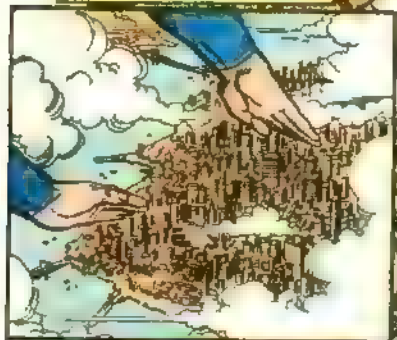
WHAT BEGAN WITH
YOU SO MANY CENTURIES
AGO-- ENDS WITH YOU
NOW!!



SKRAAAA

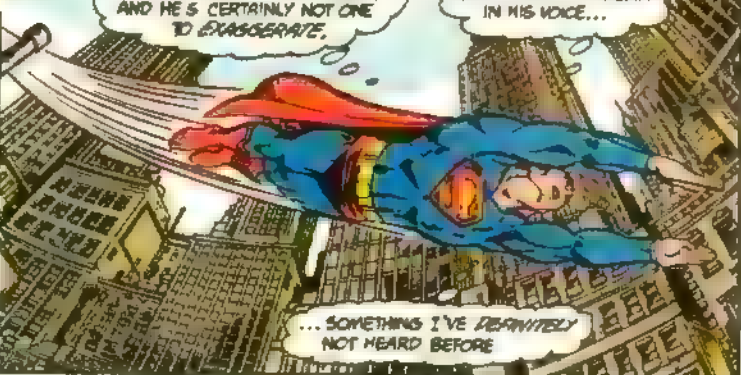
THIS IS OUR
HOMELAND
OF THE
GUARDIANS
OF THE
UNIVERSE!

METROPOLIS, EARTH ONE...



BATMAN SAID IT WAS LATEST, AND HE'S CERTAINLY NOT ONE TO EXAGGERATE.

AND THERE WAS FEAR IN HIS VOICE...

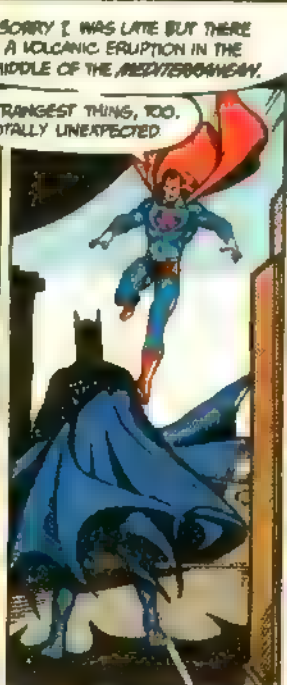
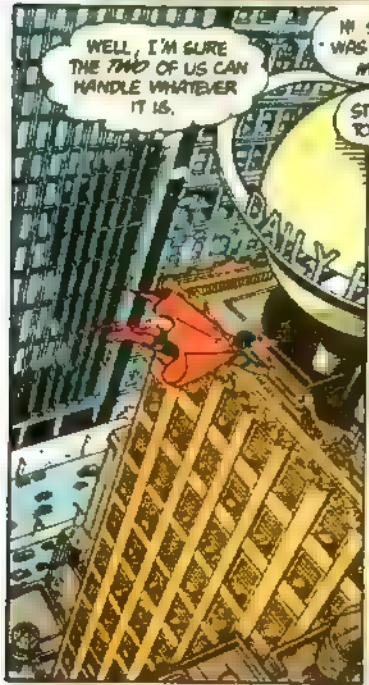


... SOMETHING I'VE DEFINITELY NOT HEARD BEFORE

WELL, I'M SURE THE TWO OF US CAN HANDLE WHATEVER IT IS.

HI. SORRY I WAS LATE BUT THERE WAS A VOLCANIC ERUPTION IN THE MIDDLE OF THE MEDITERRANEAN.

STRANGEST THING, TOO. TOTALLY UNEXPECTED



SUPERMAN, THERE'S TROUBLE.



AND IT CONCERNS THE FLASH.

AND AFTER THE BATMAN'S EXPLANATION...

IT WAS JUST AN AMUSE, BUT I HEARD HIM CALL OUT

AND NONE OF US KNOWS WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM AFTER HIS TRIAL.



I OBVIOUSLY FEAR THE WORST

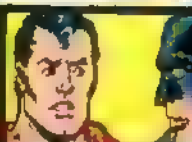
PRASE HEAVEN, HELP AT LAST!

WHO ARE YOU?



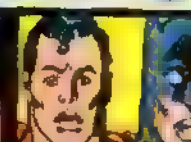
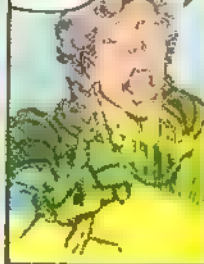
I-- I AM CALLED PARIAN...

I NEED YOU, BOTH OF YOU. YOUR LEGENDS REACHED MY WORLD LONG BEFORE MY EXILE.

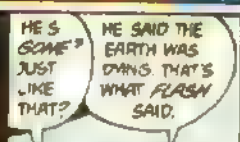


IT'S YOUR WORLD... AND YOUR UNIVERSE YOUR EARTH IS DYING-- AS HAVE THE OTHER EARTHS BEFORE-- NO! NO!

I-- I CANNOT RESIST. HELP!



I'M BEING CALLED AWAY...



WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?

THE GREAT DISASTER

IT IS SOMETIME IN SOME FUTURE, IN A TIME LINE THAT AT TIMES STANDS BETWEEN MODERN EARTH AND A 30TH CENTURY WHICH KNOWS NOTHING OF ITS EXISTENCE...

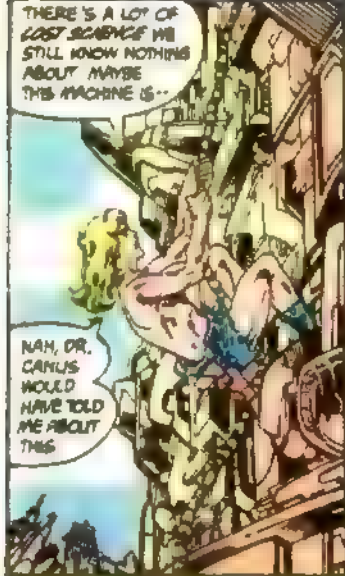
THE WORLD HAS BEEN CHANGED. HUMANS ARE HUNTED SPECIES, AND ANIMALS, NOW INTELLIGENT AND DEADLY, ARE THEIR HUNTERS.

IN THIS WORLD OF MADNESS LIVES FORWARD, KNOWN TO MANY AS THE LAST BOY ON EARTH.

I'VE RECENTLY RIDDEN OVER THIS AREA A DOZEN TIMES.

AND WHATEVER THIS IS, IT SURE WASN'T HERE BEFORE.

WONDER WHAT IT'S SUPPOSED TO DO?



THERE'S A LOT OF
LOST SCIENCE WE
STILL KNOW NOTHING
ABOUT. MAYBE
THIS MACHINE IS--

NAH, DR.
CANUS
WOULD
HAVE TOLD
ME ABOUT
THIS



I...I WONDER IF I'LL EVER
SEE HIM AGAIN. I'M SURE
NEITHER OF US WANTED
THAT FIGHT, BUT...



HUH? WH-WHAT
IS THAT?!



IT'S LIKE
A SHADOW
FLYING OUT
OF THE
MACHINE!



UH-OH,
LOST MY GRIP--

I'M
DONE
FOR!



NOT QUITE,
LAD.

YOU'RE
SAFE IN MY
HANDS



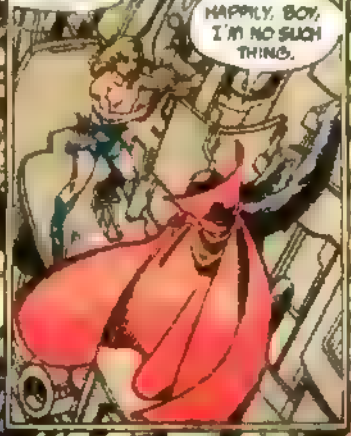
SUPERMAN?

THIS IS OBVIOUSLY
THE MONITOR'S
MACHINE.

SUPERMAN
I DON'T SEE THE
SHADOW-BEAST.

A GORILLA? YOU'VE GOT TO BE
ONE OF OZAR SHAIAN'S HIRED
KILLERS.

HAPPILY, BOY,
I'M NO SUCH
THING.



HOW DO YOU--AH,
OF COURSE...

YOU
ALMOST HAVE
MET MY
EARTH-I
COUNTER-
PART

IT'S A
SMALL WORLD.
AND GETTING
SMALLER IF WE
DON'T DO
SOMETHING
TO HELP.

BOY, WHEN
DID IT APPEAR?
IS THERE MORE
THAN ONE?



I'M NOT EVEN
FROM YOUR
TIME PERIOD.



YOUR EYES ARE
DIFFERENT
FROM THE
OTHER
ANIMALS.

WARMER
...MORE
TRUSTING.

THE SHADOW THING IS BACK-- THIS TIME WITH FRIENDS!

-- BUT IT DOESN'T SEEM AS STRONG HERE AS IT DID ON THE MONITOR'S SHIP.

YOU GUYS THINK ABOUT IT? HOW DID THE SHADOWS GET THERE?

AND UNLESS I'M COMPLETELY MISTAKEN, THEIR SILHOUETTE WAS THE SAME AS THE MONITOR'S OWN.

I NOTICED THAT MYSELF, DAWNSTAR.

IT'S OBVIOUS WE HAVEN'T BEEN TOLD EVERYTHING...

...BUT THAT DOESN'T NEGATE THE BASIC THEORY!

NOT THAT THESE SHADOWS ARE ROSING MUCH OF ONE.

MY SHOULDER-- THIS THING JUST TOUCHED IT, AND MY SHOULDER BURNS.

SOMEONE, HELP GET IT OFF ME!

NO PROBLEM, BOY.

PLEASED TO BE OF SERVICE!

LIKE THE LAST TIME, THE SHADOWS ATTACK AND FLEE.

BUT THIS TIME THEY'RE NOT DISAPPEARING.

I CAN TRACK THEM NO MATTER WHERE THEY HIDE

FROM ANYWHERE ON EARTH TO THE DARK NEBULAE THEMSELVES!

NO, GIRL-- LET THEM GO.

WE WERE BROUGHT HERE TO PROTECT THE MACHINE. NOT TO LEAVE IT ALONE FOR A SECOND ATTACK.

I KNOW, BUT IT'S FRUSTRATING TO SIMPLY WAIT HERE

I AGREE YET, SOMEHOW I FEEL THE SHADOW DEMONS ARE MERELY A PRELUDE TO SOME GREATER DISASTER.

WILL SOMEONE TELL ME WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?

FROM NOT TOO FAR AWAY, HARBINGER WATCHES AND CHUCKLES...

THE MONITOR'S SATELLITE...

ONLY HOURS SINCE HARBINGER REJOINED HER DREAM SEEMS TO BECOME LYLA AGAIN...

IT HAS ONLY BEEN HOURS SINCE ONE OF HARBINGER'S PERSONAS FOUND ITSELF TRAPPED OVER BY SOMETHING UNUSUAL...

ONLY HOURS SINCE LYLA WAS TAKEN OVER FULLY...

YET, STILL SHE DOES THE MONITOR'S BIDDING, UNTIL SHE IS GIVEN THE FINAL COMMAND...

THAT WILL COME SOON ENOUGH, ALL TOO SOON ENOUGH.

HIS NAME IS ALEXANDER LUTHOR, CHILD OF THE LATE ALEX AND LOIS LUTHOR FROM THE PLANET EARTH.

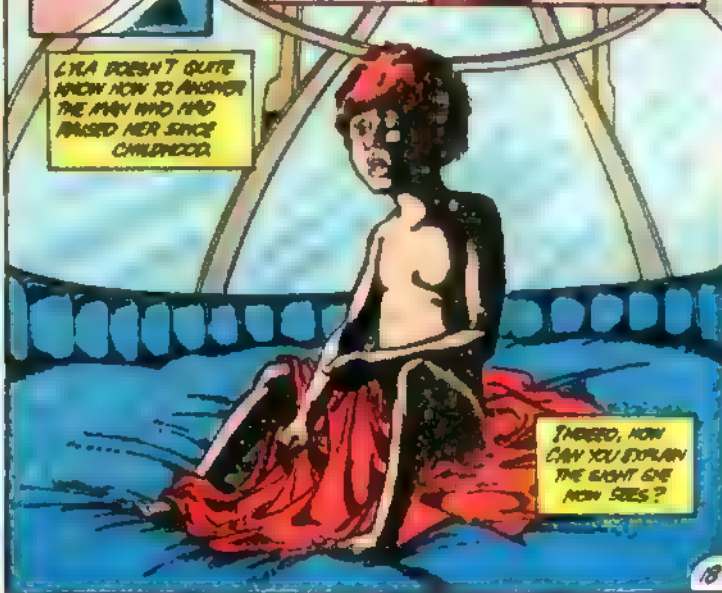
EARTH'S, LIKE HIS PARENTS, NO LONGER EXISTS.

LYLA, WHAT IS IT?

WHAT IS ANSWER? CAN'T YOU BRING THE LUTHOR BABY TO ME?



LYLA DOESN'T QUITE KNOW HOW TO ANSWER THE MAN WHO HAD RAISED HER SINCE CHILDHOOD.



INDEED, NOW CAN YOU EXPLAIN THE LIGHT SHE NOW SEES?

LET THEM PROTECT THE MACHINE, IT WILL SORT OUT THOSE FOOLS NO GOOD.

THEIR EFFORTS WILL BE REWARDED WITH...

...DEATH!

ONLY HOURS SINCE SHE EMBARRASSED THE PATH OF THE MONITOR'S DEADLY JOE.

ATLANTIS...

THE BLEAMING GATES STILL STAND, AND BY THE SACRED RITE OF CHOLCH, THEY SHALL NEVER FALL.

AND IT HOUSES SO MANY PEOPLE, TOO WITH SO MANY OVERSEER. YOU FEEL THEM, MY FRIENDS?

THIS IS GLORIOUS, SIMPLY GLORIOUS.

USE YOUR EMOTION-CONTROLLING POWERS ON THEM ONCE, PSYCHO PIRATE, AND MY PUNISHMENT WILL BE SWIFT.

COME NOW--THERE IS ABBEY THAT MUST BE DONE.

OH, OF COURSE, OF COURSE, DEAR LORD ARION.

I WOULD NEVER SPREAD MY MADNESS HERE

AT LEAST NOT FOR YOU TO KNOW, STUPID OAF.

LORD ARION! WHEN THAT MACHINE APPEARED WE FOLLOWED YOU ACROSS THE GREAT ICE--BUT YOUR TRACKS SUDDENLY ENDED.

LADY CHIAN, THERE ARE SEVERAL I COULD TELL...

...OF WORLDS AND POWERS THAT COULD HUMBLE EVEN PABLED ATLANTIS HERSELF.

YOU KNOW OF THIS MACHINE?

I DO. BUT PLEASE ASK ME NOTHING NOW.

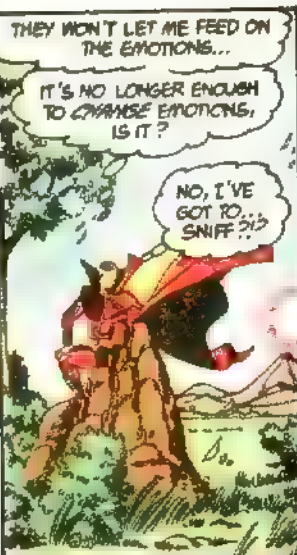
ARION--

AH, YES, OBSIDIAN, OUR WORK.

NOT THAT--IT'S THE PSYCHO PIRATE WHERE IS HE?

I CAN'T FIND HIM ANYWHERE!

THIS IS ATLANTIS! WOW! I'D HEARD OF IT, SEEN IT IN THE MOVIES, BUT NOTHING COULD PREPARE ME FOR WHAT IT REALLY LOOKS LIKE.



THEY WON'T LET ME FEED ON THE EMOTIONS...

IT'S NO LONGER ENOUGH TO CHANGE EMOTIONS, IS IT?

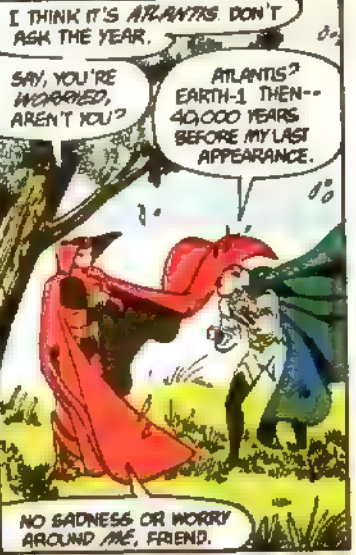
NO, I'VE GOT TO SNIFF!!



I'M PICKING UP... ~~FEAR~~ OH, GOOD-SWEET, MANIPULABLE FEAR, MY KIND OF DREAD!



WHERE AM I? I NEED TO KNOW!



I THINK IT'S ATLANTIS DON'T ASK THE YEAR.

SAY, YOU'RE WORRIED, AREN'T YOU?

ATLANTIS? EARTH-1 THEN-- 40,000 YEARS BEFORE MY LAST APPEARANCE.

NO SADNESS OR WORRY AROUND ME, FRIEND.



NOT WHEN I NEED YOUR FEELINGS MORE THAN YOU DO.



SO HERE, LIGHTEN UP-- LAUGH!



HA HA HA



LORD, NO-- DON'T MAKE ME--



YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING SORRY!



DEMENTED FOOL, THAT IS ENOUGH!

WHAT? WHO DARES TO--

OH, IT'S YOU MISTAKE; FRIENDS-- REAL MISTAKE



YOU SEE, ABSORBING PURPLE-HAIR'S EMOTIONS INCREASED MY STRENGTH!

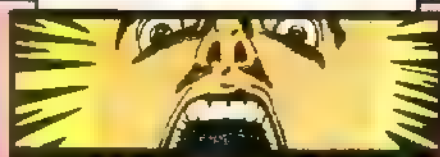


WHAT YOU FOOLS NEED IS A HEALTHY DOSE OF TERROR!

FIGHT ME IF YOU CAN, BUT YOU MAY AS WELL RESIST THE TERROR OF YOUR OWN EMOTIONS

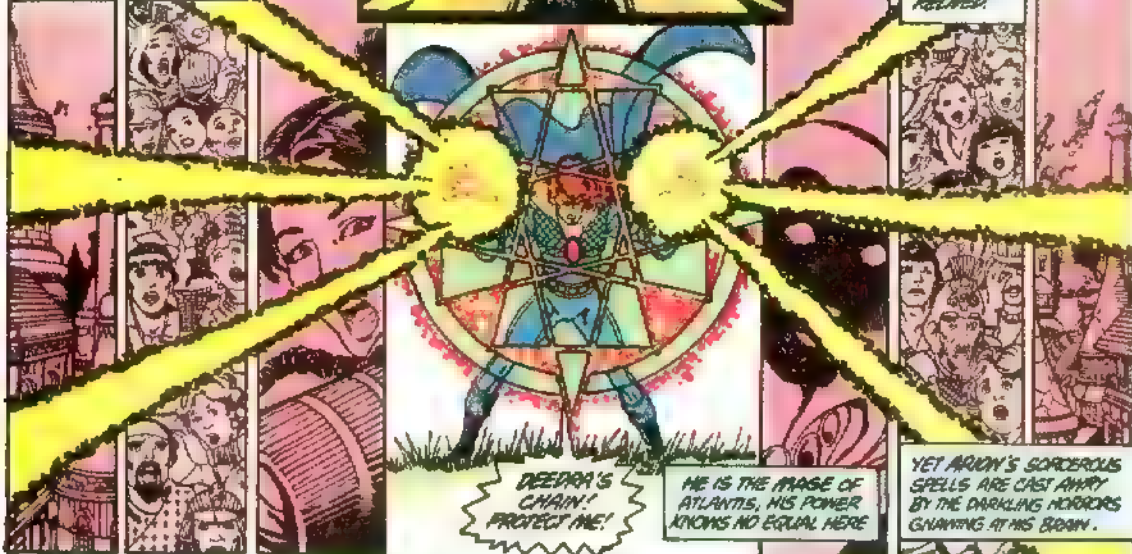
THEY ALL
SUFFER
THE SHEL-
LING,
GROWING
FEAR...

THEIR
HEARTS
EXPLODE
WITH EVERY
PAINFUL
BEAT...



EVERY TERROR,
EVERY NIGHT-
MARE, EVERY
AGONY, IS
RELIEVED AND
RELIVED AND
RELIVED

AND THERE
CAN BE NO
ESCAPE.



DEEDRA'S
CHAIN!
PROTECT ME!

HE IS THE IMAGE OF
ATLANTIS, HIS POWER
KNOWS NO EQUAL HERE

YET ARION'S SORCEROUS
SPELLS ARE CAST AWAY
BY THE DARKLING HORRORS
GNAWING AT HIS SOUL.



ARION,
QUICKLY--
COME
TO ME.

PSYCHO
PIRATE'S POWERS
AFFECT YOU
BECAUSE YOU
CAN SEE HIS
FACIAL CHANGES.



BUT IN MY SHADOW-FORM
I CAN PROTECT YOU.

CHOLON! THE
INVINCIBLE PIRATE.
I THANK YOU,
CHAMADIAN!



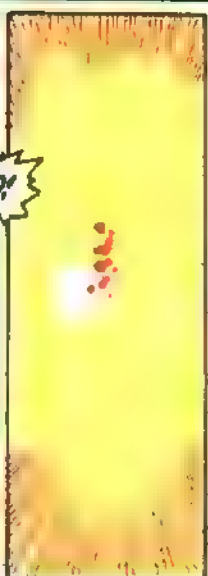
NOT SO SIMPLE. THE INFINTOR
CAN'T PROTECT ALL OF YOU

YOU'RE
STILL PREY
TO MY
MADNESS.
YOU'RE...



WHAT?

NO!



HE DISAPPEARED. BUT I DON'T
THINK HE PLANNED TO.

LORD
ARION?

THANK
YOU, LADY CHIAN
-- BUT MY
STRENGTH QUICKLY
RETURNS

TO
WHERE DID
THE PSYCHO
PIRATE
VANISH?

WHAT HAPPENED?
WHERE AM I?

PSYCHO PIRATE
I NEED YOU

YOUR VOICE--
IT'S LIKE ADE.

BUT I DON'T NEED YOU AND
I DON'T EVEN WANT YOU

SHOW ME YOUR
FACE AND I'LL TEACH
YOU THE MEANING
OF FEAR.

FOOL! YOU
WOULD
WANT A
FACE?

WITHOUT
ONE OF
YOUR
EMOTIONS?

YOU WANT TO
SCREAM, DON'T YOU?
WELL, FEAR WILL
CANNOT NOT
WITHIN A MAN.

AND YOU WILL DIE
WITHOUT AN OUTLET
FOR YOUR
EMOTIONS.

IF YOU WANT TO
LET ME KNOW
YOU'RE ALIVE.

...YOU MUST
SHOW ME
YOUR EMOTIONS.

OH, LORD--YES, I'LL DO
ANYTHING. BUT PLEASE DON'T
EVER DO THAT AGAIN.

WITHOUT A WAY OF
EXPRESSING THEM,
THE EMOTIONS SEALED
INSIDE ME WOULD
HAVE DESTROYED
ME

WE'VE LOST THE
PSYCHO PIRATE.

I--I'LL DO AS
YOU DEMAND!

MONITOR, SURELY
HIS POWERS
WEREN'T THAT
CRUCIAL.

MY DEAR LILA, I
NEEDED HIM MORE
THAN EITHER OBSIDIAN
OR ARCON. THE MENACE
WE DEAL WITH IS ONE
OF EMOTION.

THEN
WHAT OF
THE EMPATH
CALLED
RASH?

I CAN FIND NO
TRACE OF HER. IF
SHE IS ON THIS EARTH,
EVERYTHING ABOUT
HER HAS BEEN
CHANGED.

NO, I FEAR WE WILL HAVE
TO ADDRESS THIS AVENUE
AND INVESTIGATE ANOTHER.

LILA, MY DEAR, GET
ME THE FILE ON
THE NEW DR.
LIGHT!

IT IS TIME
FOR ME TO
CREATE
HER!



THE MAD ONE
WAS ABOUT TO KILL
HIM WHEN I
ATTACKED.

HE'S NOT FROM
ATLANTIS, THEN?

NO, NOT FROM THIS
EARTH, BUT ANOTHER--

--THE FIRST THAT FELL
WHEN THIS INSANITY
BEGAN.

BUT LONG AFTER
I WAS CURSED
FOR AN EVIL ACT I
HAD COMMITTED.

A DEED I HAVE PAID
FOR A THOUSAND TIMES OVER,
AND MUST SUFFER STILL A
THOUSAND TIMES MORE.

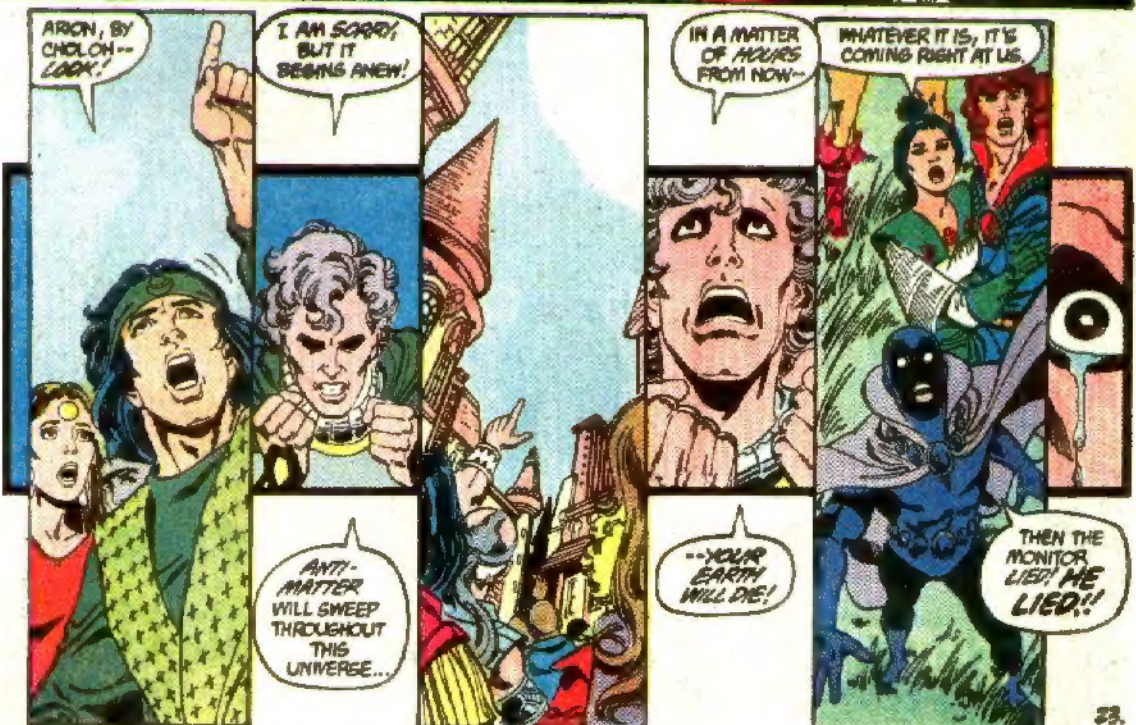
I WITNESS TRAGEDY,
AND MY BEING HERE
MEANS DISASTER IS
SOON TO STRIKE.



DISASTER? BUT THE
MONITOR SPOKE OUR
PRESENCE WOULD
DIVERT SUCH CRISIS!

UPON
HIS COMMAND
WE ARE TO ACTIVATE
HIS MACHINES--

AND I TELL YOU WHAT
I AM. I MOVE BETWEEN
YOUR TIME PERIODS, BUT
EVERYWHERE I GO I
SEE THE SAME SIGN...



ARON, BY
CHOLOH--
LOOK!

I AM SORRY,
BUT IT
BEGINS ANEW!

IN A MATTER
OF HOURS
FROM NOW--

WHATEVER IT IS, IT'S
COMING RIGHT AT US.

ANTI-
MATTER
WILL SWEEP
THROUGHOUT
THIS
UNIVERSE...

--YOUR
EARTH
WILL DIE!

THEN THE
MONITOR
LIED! HE
LIED!!

WHILE, IN THE MONITOR'S SATELLITE...

THE FRYINGS BEGINS AGAIN.

IT REACHES THIS UNIVERSE, TOO.

AND I HAVEN'T COMPLETED THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE NEW DR. LIGHT.

MY FOE MOVES FASTER THAN I ANTICIPATED...

...WHILE I... FEEL THE WEAKNESS SPREADING ALL TOO QUICKLY.

ALL TOO SOON NOW I WILL DIE OR BE KILLED.

UNLESS...

UNLESS...

MEANWHILE...

"HARBINGER, SPEAK TO ME NOW!"

THE MONITOR HAS IMPLEMENTED HIS PLANS.

ALTHOUGH NOT ALL HIS WARRIORS ARE IN PLACE, MOST STAND READY!

THE MONITOR WILL FAIL!

AS HE HAS ALWAYS FAILED TO STOP ME!

"I STEAL HIS STRENGTH AND MINE GROWS STRONGER!"

"HIS CHAMPIONS ARE DOOMED AS I PIT ONE AGAINST THE OTHER."

NOW GO! THERE IS WORK TO BE DONE!

"AS ALWAYS, HE PROVES THE INCOMPETENT FOOL FOR NOT ACCEPTING THE INEVITABLE! WHEN I AM DONE, ALL HIS UNIVERSES SHALL BE DESTROYED."

"WHILE MINE SHALL RULE SUPREME!"

"UNIVERSE
AFTER UNIVERSE
HAS FALLEN
BEFORE MY POWER
WORLD IS
ABSORBED INTO
ONE.

"HOW MANY WORLDS
DO I NOW CONTROL?
HOW MANY LIVES
ARE NOW MINE?"

"LYLA, I RAISED YOU FROM
CHILDHOOD, YET EVEN THEN
I KNEW HOW IT ALL WOULD
END.

"YOU WERE A
CHILD LOST FROM
THE START, BUT I
INSTILLED WITHIN
YOU HOPE.

"FIND THAT HOPE,
LYLA-- CALL ON
IT SOON, FOR
THE DARKEST
TIMES ARE ONLY
HOURS AWAY.

"RESIST HIS TEMPTATIONS,
LYLA-- THROUGH YOU, THROUGH
THE CHILD FROM EARTH-3,
THROUGH THE MAN WHO
CALLS HIMSELF PARHA--

"-- ONLY THROUGH ALL OF YOU AND ALL
MY CHAMPIONS CAN THE UNIVERSES THAT
STILL LIVE SURVIVE!"

NEXT ISSUE: THE TEEN TITANS! THE OUTSIDERS! THE HAUNTED
TANK! SGT. ROCK AND EASY COMPANY! JONAH HEX!
BAT LASH! AND MANY, MANY MORE...

CRISIS

MAIL

Welcome to the second issue of **CRISIS ON INFINITE EARTHS**. If you were with us last issue (and shame on you if you weren't), I mentioned that in many ways **THE CRISIS** began with a letter I printed in a **GREEN LANTERN** letter column complaining about DC continuity.

I have to tell you something about my friend Len Wein. Len is a great guy, a good, solid writer, and a fine, fine editor (you can see Len's talents displayed in our companion magazine **WHO'S WHO: THE DEFINITIVE DIRECTORY OF THE DC UNIVERSE**, on sale now). That Len loves teddy bears cannot be held against him (I love moose, so sue me). What can be held against Len is that he is always (mark that—not sometimes, but ALWAYS) late. He has missed airplanes, deadlines, dinners, meetings, etc., etc. He doesn't get hungry again until TWO hours after a Chinese dinner. I'm sure he'll also be late for his last tango with Mr. G. Reeper.

Well, Len Wein, **GREEN LANTERN** artist, Joe Station, and I, were scheduled to go to a convention the day I wrote the answers to the **GREEN LANTERN** letter column for issue #143. I arrived at Penn Station in New York on time (for me on time means arriving ten minutes before we agree to meet). Joe was traveling with Len. Time passes.

No problem.

After all, I was here early. More time passes. Still no problem. The train won't be leaving for a while.

More time passes.

Almost an hour later I'm still waiting and the train has already left.

Now, I wasn't wasting my time brooding while sitting there on the floor of Penn Station. For some reason I was thinking about the letter column I had just written. I was thinking about DC continuity and how it could be fixed up, and should it be fixed up, and was anything wrong with it in the first place, and...

You get the idea.

When Len and Joe finally showed—in time for the next train down to Philly—I punched Len in the face and started to babble to Joe about all my great ideas. Actually, I didn't punch anyone in the face.

Most of the convention was spent talking about this nifty idea. Trouble was, it was such a big idea we didn't think we could convince anyone else it was worth trying.

We were wrong.

Monday morning Len and I marched into Dick Giordano's vast office over-

looking the sewage pipes at 75 Rock (our old address). With as much enthusiasm as we could muster we began our explanations. "See, Dick," I started, "DC mythology is so confusing Sherlock Holmes couldn't make sense of it. Why don't we do a book which clarifies what DC is? We can call it **THE HISTORY OF THE DC UNIVERSE**." Len interjected, "We start with Anthro, the first boy, and end with Kamandi, the last. Actually, we go further, but you know what we mean."

Dick smiled at us with the kind of smile that says "I knew it was bound to happen sooner or later. They've flipped out."

"You see," Len continued, "our regular comics can fit into a specific timeline. We'll have a consistent DC universe. But other books, like **RONIN** or **CAMELOT 3000**, or a new creation, can be outside the main books. We can have the best of both possible worlds."

Dick leaned over, interested now. Len and I smiled. We had him.

"This would allow us consistency," I said. "It would repair many of the mistakes we've made in the past, simplify our present structure, and still allow us to do wildly experimental comics and not feel they have to conform to an established continuity."

Dick looked at us and said, "What about Earth One, Two, Three, S, X, and the rest of the alphabet?"

We leaned over his cluttered desk, smiled, and whispered our plan.

Within a week we were in Publisher and President Janette Kahn's office. We outlined our concept for **THE HISTORY**, as it was known then. Janette loved the idea and gave us an instant go-ahead. But we had to coordinate everything with all the other writers and editors.

Now came the hard part. We said DC has a 50-year history. We need to hire someone to read our comics and make notes. This was an absurd request. We're always understaffed anyway, and here we wanted to hire someone just to read comics. Janette didn't flinch. She saw this as a new beginning for DC.

We hired Peter Sanderson, a fan writer whose interest in comic history was well known. Peter worked for almost two years reading and writing notes. Not an easy task, believe us.

Months passed and Janette wanted to know what was happening with **THE HISTORY**. Peter was still reading comics. Nothing could begin until he was done. Janette wanted to know when we were going to start. I smiled sheepishly and said, "You realize that DC's 50th

DC Comics Inc.
685 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY 10103

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Anniversary is coming up in two years. 1985, it would be great to publish **THE HISTORY** then. A real new beginning!"

So work continued. Peter completed his work, then accepted a staff job at our downtown rivals, and we brought in Bob Greenberger, formerly of *Starlog* and *Comics Scene* magazines, to assist.

Len, Bob, and I were asked to prepare a "Death List." That would include all the heroes/heroines/Earths/etc. which would be changed, altered, die, given new costumes, new powers, less powers, and on and on. We did so, trying to be as daring as we could. In fact, we added in some characters we knew would be shot down. No way DC would let us change him or her. Wrong again!

We gave the list to Dick and Janette. Janette asked that we be even more daring in our thinking.

We knew some people might complain in the beginning, but if the changes were for the better, they would be happier that we made them. DC was no longer standing still. We weren't going to simply say we'll change this or that and change it back months later... we'll take a hard look at our characters and make changes that work, and those changes will be permanent ones, not temporary.

THE HISTORY became **DC UNIVERSE: CRISIS ON INFINITE EARTHS** and that was shortened to **CRISIS ON INFINITE EARTHS**. Four years in the making, over seven hundred characters will be affected. Worlds will come under our scrutiny. A story of intrigue, danger, love, horror, death, life, and hope will be told.

George Pérez, **CRISIS** penciller, Dick Giordano, our inker, and I, Marv Wolfman, are trying our hardest to make this the very best magazine we can produce. Beyond that we're trying to lay the groundwork for the next 50 years at DC. We have a tough task ahead of us. We know whatever we do some people won't like it. You'll mourn your favorite heroes' death, or another hero changing. But we honestly believe that the DC Comics you'll find in December of 1985 will be the most exciting DC ever. There will be new heroes introduced, new excitement, and new thrill!

DC Comics is entering its second 50 years a fresh, vibrant company. **CRISIS ON INFINITE EARTHS** is only the beginning.

Stick with us and see what we're doing. You may be pleased. You may be shocked. But you'll have to admit the DC Universe will never be the same!

—Marv Wolfman